IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: SHOZUI, et al.

Serial No.:   Unknown   Group No.:   Unknown

Filed: Unknown   Examiner: Unknown

For: **ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION PROCESSING AND OPERATINAL SYSTEM DESIGNING METHOD**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C.   20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please make the following change prior to examination of the above-referenced

application:

In the Specification:

Please   insert   following   sentence   between   **"ORGANIZATIONAL**

INFORMATION   PROCESSING   AND   OPERATINAL   SYSTEM   DESIGNING

METHOD" and **"Field of the Invention:"**

- -This is a continuation of prior application Serial No. 09/994,956 filed on

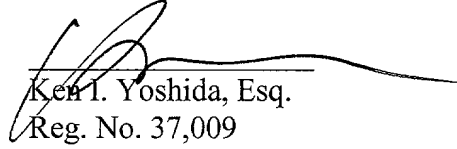November 27, 2001 under 35 C.F.R. 1.53(b).- -

In the Claims:

Claim 9, please change "according to claim" to -- "according to claim 1"--.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 12, 2001

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ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION PROCESSING AND OPERATIONAL SYSTEM DESIGNING METHOD

This is a continuation of prior application Serial No. 09/994,956 filed on November
5   27, 2001 under 35 C.F.R. 1.53(b).

Field of the Invention

The current invention is generally related to organizational information
10   processing methods and systems, and more particularly related to standardization and
automation in designing a new service operation.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

15   In response to globally competitive and ever-changing business environment,
many new businesses are now reorganizing their information systems that are highly tied to
operational strategies. The information systems generally function as a foundation for the
operation and is demanded for large-scale, high-speed and complex operations. In addition
to the above requirements, it is also strongly demanded that the information systems be
20   designed and made ready for use in a short period of time in the above described highly
competitive age. Designing the information systems tends to be highly labor intensive and
inefficient in the conventional art. To improve the information system design process,
templates have been used in a limited capacity. For the above reason, it is highly desirable
to improve the process of designing information systems.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In order to solve the above and other problems, according to a first aspect of the
current invention, a system for designing an information flow process, includes: a data
30   storage unit for storing a predetermined set of activity names in a predetermined sequence,
the activity names respectively representing certain service operations; an input/output unit
connected to the data storage unit for displaying the activity names as information provider

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4. The system for designing an information flow process according to claim 1 wherein said input/output unit receives the user input data for modifying the information names, said processing unit updating the relationships and the DFD matrix format for displaying

5   the modified information names, said processing unit storing the modified information names in the ER source information file.

5. The system for designing an information flow process according to claim 1 wherein said input/output unit receives the user input data for modifying the positions of the information

10   names, said processing unit updating the relationships and the DFD matrix format for displaying the modified positions of the information names, said processing unit storing the modified positions of the information names in the ER source information file.

6. The system for designing an information flow process according to claim 1 wherein said

15   input/output unit for receives the user data for further determining associated detailed activities of a selected one of the activity names, said processing unit updating the predetermined DFD matrix format based upon the associated detailed activities for displaying the activity names, said processing unit storing the activity names with the associated detailed activities in the ER source information file.

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7. The system for designing an information flow process according to claim 6 wherein said input/output unit further comprises a structure data flow (SDF) input screen based upon the ER source information file for receiving the user input data for the associated detailed activities via the SDF input screen.

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8. The system for designing an information flow process according to claim 7 wherein said SDF input screen displays an information provider activity name, an input information name, a detailed activity name, an output information name and an information consumer activity name.

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9. The system for designing an information flow process ~~according to claim~~ according to claim 1 wherein said input/output unit displays a service function design table based upon

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